

Public Notice – Environmental Project

PURPOSE OF NOTICE:

The Department of Environmental Quality seeks public comment on the state's response to the environmental aspects of a proposed project in the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

July 30, 2013 to August 20, 2013

TYPE OF RESPONSE:

Federal Consistency Determination

DEQ is reviewing a proposed federal activity to determine if it is consistent with the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program (VCP) established pursuant to the U.S. Coastal Zone Management Act. The VCP seeks to protect the quality of air, water or other natural resources in Virginia's coastal area.

NAME OF AGENCY PROPOSING THE PROJECT:

DOD/U.S. Navy

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Department of the Navy (Navy) proposes to construct a shoreline restoration and protection project at Joint Expeditionary Base (JEB) Little Creek/Fort Story in the City of Virginia Beach. The shoreline at JEB Fort Story, particularly the beaches and primary dunes, has experienced sporadic episodes of severe erosion during major storm events placing both rare terrestrial habitats and man-made structures, including aids to navigation, military training facilities, and historic resources, at risk of damage or destruction. Under the proposed action, sand on the beaches at JEB Fort Story would be replenished and a single stone breakwater would be constructed as follows: 1) sand would be replenished along approximately 2,500 linear feet of shoreline, and the toe of the existing dune would be replenished and reshaped at the Omaha Beach training area; 2) sand would be replenished along approximately 1,300 linear feet of shoreline across from the Department of Public Works (DPW) building; and 3) one stone breakwater would be constructed to provide storm protection and sand would be replenished along approximately 370 linear feet of shoreline north and east of Building 734 at the northern terminus of Leyte Road. Under the proposed action, a total of approximately 845,800 cubic yards of sand would be required for the beach and dune replenishment. Sand for the replenishment would be obtained and transported from one or a combination of two federal navigation channels: 1) the Thimble Shoals Channel; or 2) the Atlantic Ocean Channel and the Cape Henry Channel. The Navy has submitted a Federal Consistency Determination that finds the proposed action consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program.

HOW TO COMMENT:

DEQ accepts comments from the public by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ within the comment period. The public may review the project documents at DEQ's central office in Richmond.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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